**Comma Usage Exercise 1 Handout Key**

**Directions: Place commas in the areas in which they belong. Refer to your Comma Usage rundown if unsure. Be prepared to defend your answers (with one or more of the rules) when we go over these in class.**

**1. The police searched everywhere, but there were no fingerprints to be found. A-3**

**2. Mr. Feinstein asked the waiter for coffee, beans, and ham and eggs. A-1**

**3. States included in the Japanese beetle area are New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware. A-1**

**4. I played the melody on the guitar, and the electric bass provided the rhythm. A-3**

**5. Everyone turned to watch the large, pale yellow moon. A-2**

**6. This policy covers medical expenses, iron-lung rental, hospitalization, and transportation to a center of treatment. A-1**

**7. The train pulled out and left me in a strange town without my luggage, hat and coat, or credentials. A-1**

**8. The school administration is responsible, for these disciplinary problems stem from the rules made in the office. A-3**

**9. This poet did not use capital letters, and her punctuation was frequently unconventional.**

**A-3**

**10. The wagon train was approaching lonely, wild country. A-2**

**11. The wind froze us, the rain soaked us, and the waves tossed us. A-1**

**12. We are learning more and more about space through our new and stronger telescopes, our huge radar installations, and our instrument-packed space probes. A-1**

**13. She found that it was a friendly, unsophisticated little town that she had chosen for her home.**

**A-2**

**14. Soldiers were stationed at frequent intervals along the curb, and the sidewalks behind them were jammed with onlookers. A-3**

**15. She is pretty, tall, and blonde; her sister is small and dark and beautiful. A-1**

**Comma Usage Exercise 2 Handout Key**

**Directions: Place commas in the areas in which they belong. Refer to your Comma Usage rundown if unsure. Be prepared to defend your answers (with one or more of the rules) when we go over these in class.**

**1. Friends who do favors for you may expect you to do favors for them. Correct**

**2. The Welcoming Committee, who made us feel at home in a strange school, helped us through the first confusing days of the term. B-1**

**3. Our new Buick, which my parents bought in Detroit, is a four-door model. B-1**

**4. The Buick which Mr. Burton drives is like the one we saw on television. Correct**

**5. She is wearing the sweater that she received for Christmas. Correct**

**6. Her new sweater, which was a Christmas gift, is two sizes too large. B-1**

**7. People who are nervous do not make good drivers. Correct**

**8. Men, who are sometimes thought to be the stronger sex, cannot stand pain as well as women.**

**B-1**

**9. American cities that are outwardly very much alike may show distinctive characteristics on more intimate acquaintance. Correct**

**10. Cities that have great financial problems levy a sales tax. Correct**

**11. The Sault Saint Marie Canals, which connect Lake Superior and Lake Huron, would be a prime target in wartime. B-1**

**12. I do not like people who litter public parks. Correct**

**13. These antiquated tariffs, which were necessary during the depression, are shutting off foreign markets from American manufacturers. B-1**

**14. Many people who settled America came to escape tyranny. Correct**

**15. The Hudson’s Bay Company, which is one of the oldest trading firms in the world, was founded in 1670. B-1**

**16. Leontyne Price, who is well-known for her role as Cleopatra, is one of the world’s leading sopranos. B-1**

**17. The book that I have read for this report is a novel about World War II. Correct**

**18. On my return I found that the people that I had expected to see had moved away. Correct**

**19. Lucy French, who does her own gardening, says she exhausts herself trying to get rid of**

**weeds. B-1**

**20. All the tickets that had been sold were recalled. Correct**

**Comma Usage Exercise 3 Handout Key**

**Directions: Place commas in the areas in which they belong. Refer to your Comma Usage rundown if unsure. Be prepared to defend your answers (with one or more of the rules) when we go over these in class.**

**1. Any student who wishes to join the gymnastics team will have to excel in floor exercises, on the balance beam, and on the uneven parallel bars. A-1**

**2. The sophomores decorated the gym, and the juniors provided the refreshments. A-3**

**3. Anyone taking the basic photography course will learn how to shoot close-ups, portraits, and still lifes. A-1**

**4. The judge, leaving her chambers , stopped to talk to some court reporters who had gathered around her. B-1**

**5. We got encouragement from everyone, but our parents helped us most of all. A-3**

**6. Careful writers distinguish between uninterested, which means “indifferent,” and disinterested, which means “unbiased.” B-1, B-1**

**7. Any student wishing to sing, act, or perform on Class Day should sign up before tomorrow, which is the deadline. A-1, B-1**

**8. Governor Quigley, whose speeches are filled with clichés, appeared on television last night asking people to “tighten their belts, bite the bullet, pull their own weight, and give till it hurts.” B-1, A-1**

**9. A sad-looking mongrel, which had followed me halfway home, suddenly trotted up to me and, staring at me soulfully, started to lick my hand. B-1, B-1**

**10. A story which appeared in yesterday’s newspaper was about the Toronto Maple Leafs,**

**which is my favorite hockey team. B-1**

**Comma Usage Exercise 4 Handout Key**

**Directions: Place commas in the areas in which they belong. Refer to your Comma Usage rundown if unsure. Be prepared to defend your answers (with one or more of the rules) when we go over these in class.**

**1. One look at the assignment is not enough, for most students will need to study it carefully.**

**A-3**

**2. When we had finished playing, the piano was rolled offstage to make room for the next act.**

**C-4**

**3. On the afternoon of the first day of school, the halls were still filled with lost, confused, or frightened freshmen. C-3, A-2**

**4. Well, if you need help, please don’t hesitate to ask me or Mrs. Seil or Mrs. Faust. C-1, C-4**

**5. In the second half of the third period, Johnson evaded the defense, caught a twenty-yard pass, and raced into the end zone. C-3, A-1**

**6. Speaking in assembly yesterday, Katy Stover urged students to obey the new rules governing conduct in the cafeteria, the school corridors, and the parking lot. C-2, A-1**

**7. Having studied the tax proposals of both political parties, Governor Ross, who was not satisfied, rejected both proposals and then presented a new plan. C-2, B-1**

**8. Marchers in the long, orderly, picket line appeared to have the support of everyone in the crowd, but the police, carrying out their orders, broke up the demonstration. A-1, A-3, B-2**

**9. Legitimate theaters are prospering in many American cities, but the New York stage is still the goal of young actors, dancers, and musicians. A-3, A-1**

**10. When Bill was driving, our truck lurched unexplainably, and we wondered whether he**

**was falling asleep at the wheel. C-4, A-3**

**Comma Usage Exercise 5 Handout Key**

**Directions: Place commas in the areas in which they belong. Refer to your Comma Usage rundown if unsure.**

**1. The final act, a general free-for-all, had the first-night audience, a dignified crowd, holding their sides. D-1, D-1**

**2. Indeed, if I knew the answer, my friend, I would not be asking you for it. C-1, C-4, D-2**

**3. The authors of this book, a volume of bitter criticism, have, in my opinion, been most unfair.**

**D-1, D-3**

**4. This painting, Betty, is by Emilio Sanchez, an artist born in Cuba. D-3, D-1**

**5. Russian artists, on the other hand, must promote Communist doctrines, for everyone in Russia works for the state. D-3, A-3**

**6. Our plan, I knew, would have to succeed, for there would be no second chance. D-3, A-3**

**7. The nineteenth-century book *El Jibaro,* which was written by Manuel A. Alonso, is, by the way, considered the first Puerto Rican classic. B-1, D-3**

**8. Imprisoned without warning or explanation, the two reporters were held, if I remember correctly, for two months in spite of efforts by England, France, and the United States to effect their release. C-2, D-3, A-1**

**9. If you are prompt in getting your order in, our office will guarantee delivery before Christmas, which is only ten days off. C-4, B-1**

**10. You should understand, my good friend, that, much as I should like to do so, I cannot give money to every organization that thinks it needs help. D-2, D-3**

**11. Passengers riding in the front of the wrecked bus were the ones who were most severely injured.**

**Correct**

**12. This school, composed largely of students from farm homes, must offer courses in agriculture, the occupation that most of the students will enter. B-2, D-1**

**13. Looking for a sports car at a bargain price, Henry, who is car-crazy, spent the day hanging around the North Country Motor Company, which buys, sells, and services all makes of foreign cars. C-2, B-1, B-1, A-1**

**14. Lauren and Jim, left alone in the house, immediately raided the refrigerator, which was full of tasty items for the party that Kay’s mother was giving the next day. B-2, B-1**

**15. Napoleon’s brothers Joseph and Lucien tried to prevent him from selling Louisiana, but Richard Livingston and James Monroe, the American representatives, succeeded in making the purchase. A-3, D-1**

**16. Well, having tried all morning to reach me, the girls delivered the message, and I gave them a written reply, which I hoped would be satisfactory. C-1, C-2, A-3, B-1**

**17. In spite of their parents’ warning, Amy and Joan, who should have known better, stayed up reading the night before the test and didn’t get to sleep, they admitted, until 2 o’clock.**

**C-3, B-1, D-3**

**18. Taking an afternoon stroll in the park, my little sister Sally befriended a retriever, a spaniel, and a mutt that followed her home. C-2, A-1**

**19. Before you start taking anything apart, Maria, I hope you will be sure that you can, if necessary, put it together again. C-4, D-2, D-3**

**20. When Jimmie had finished, the cake and pie were all gone, and left untouched were the steak, potatoes, and salad. C-4, A-3, A-1**